

RIVER CURRENTS



Happy Holidays!



A PUBLICATION OF
THE MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 11, NUMBER 4
WINTER 2002

OPERATION REMEMBRANCE: VETERAN'S DAY 2002

MEN FROM THE MRFA: ARMY and NAVY, well represented by elements of the 9th Div. and members of the Navy River Assault Units gathered in formation at the base of the Lincoln Memorial and marched to "THE WALL" in remembrance of OUR BROTHERS.

Led by Gen. Pat Hughes, Gen. Smith and Bob [DOC] Pries the Operation was well executed! Following a covert mission led by Gen. Hughes and a select contingent to retrieve the Wreaths that were placed at three select panels, in Honor of our fallen Heros.

This tribute was full of emotions from all of our MRFA members, there were Prayers, Hugs and yes Tears in remembrance of our Brothers, whose Names are inscribed on "THE WALL". This memorial has become a symbol of our fight, our bond as brothers that will not,

that can not be broken.....EVER!

At the official ceremony that followed later in the day, Sen. John Kerry, a Swift Boat sailor in Vietnam said: "We mark 20 years of the wall, determined to set the record straight: in 10 years, American soldiers never lost a battle that made a difference."

Coming to tears Kerry emphasized, "Nothing... Nothing... will ever diminish one iota the sacrifices, the contributions we made!"

It was clear Kerry was speaking directly to those of us that fought in the Vietnam War. "God bless you all and may God bless America!!"

We need to thank MRFA Board Member Bob (Doc) Pries and all the others who participated in the wreath dedication. Doc, thanks for the great photos. Thanks to Generals Bill Fulton, Pat



Troop Ships 9th Infantry Division, 1966-67

Listed below are a few of the ships that carried parts of the 9th Infantry Division to Vietnam. A little history for each is provided.

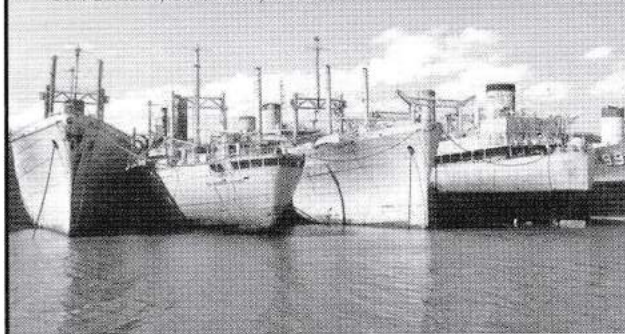
USS General Maurice Rose TAP-126 - Named after Major General Maurice Rose 1899 - KIA in Germany 1945. Placed out of commission in January, 1967.

USNS General William Weigel TAP-126 - Named after General William Weigel who served during the Indian Wars, Cuban Campaign, Spanish American War, and WW-I. She was placed out of commission in 1967.

USNS General Patch TAP-122 - Named after General Alexander M. Patch, who served during WWI and WWII.

USNS General John Pope AP-110 - Named after General John Pope who served during the War with Mexico and the Civil War. The ship was placed out of commission in 1967.

Reserve Fleet Anchorage, James River, VA
Gen. Buckner, Gen. Patch, Gen. Rose



Courtesy Bruce Eastley, and Nobe Smith, www.atlanticfleetsales.com

All these ships are gone now, most were placed out of commission or placed in reserve status after their last trip to Vietnam with the 9th in December of 1966 or early 1967. By the late 60s they were all gone. The ships came under (MSTS) Military Sea Transportation Service. They not only carried troops but dependents as well. There were a few with all U S Navy crews they came under USS Breckinridge, etc. The majority were manned by civilian crews and the ships were USNS, USNS Rose, etc. I'm sure there were more ships that assisted in transporting the 9th to Vietnam.



Photos courtesy of Jim Rosalie

Hughes, Doug Smith and all the ladies who participated as well. You did the Army & Navy Team proud Bravo Zulu to all hands.

Bruce Melver, River Assault Sq. 13—T-131-7
MACV Naval Advisory Group RAID72
Al Moore, MRFA President • Roy Moseman, VP

From the Galley

ALBERT MOORE, NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Important Notice to the Membership

This newsletter is being sent to everyone on our mailing list. For those of you who are members, it's the regular winter issue, with many more to follow. For those of you who have not yet become members, it's a complimentary issue. If you choose not to become a member of the Association, this is the last newsletter you will receive. Some of you have been on our mailing list since 1993 and have never joined. You have been in contact with us by letter or e-mail asking for assistance with rosters, VA assistance, etc. We have tried to be as helpful to you the non-member as we have the member. But all good things must come to an end. It's not fair to those dues paying members who pay their dues as well as sponsor the newsletter and make donations. We ask that if you are not a member, consider becoming one; support the Association as we have supported you over the years.

Over the last few year the cost of running the Association has gone up and we can no longer afford the luxury of trying to help and assist every one. The membership should come first. So, if you are a non-member, please fill out the application form in the newsletter and show your support. Your support would and will be greatly appreciated.

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NEW REUNION DATES FOR 2003

Starting at the 2003 Reunion at the Drawbridge Village Premier, in Ft. Mitchell, KY the main MRFA reunions will be held over Labor Day weekend. It seems the last weekend in June has run its course and the Monday following that weekend is not always a holiday. Labor Day is always recognized as a National Holiday.

You can start making reservations at the Drawbridge any time after September 1, 2002 by calling 1-800-354-9793.

Reunion Dates:

Wednesday, Aug. 27 - Sunday, Aug. 31, 2003

Room rates are as follows (these rates are good three days prior to the reunion and three days following the reunion). For the Main building: \$77.00 Single, Double, Triple or Quad Occupancy; for the Garrison building: \$67.00 Single, Double, Triple or Quad Occupancy. When making reservations be sure to mention you're making reservations under the MRFA and give the dates. When sending in your registration fee, please add the name of your guest or guests for name tag purposes. If you have any questions about the Drawbridge please feel free to call Jennifer Hesse, Convention Coordinator, at 800-426-3841 or e-mail jhesse@drawbridgeinn.com. The

Drawbridge is handicapped accessible, and has plenty of free parking. There are RV hook-ups but they are limited and there is a fee. You can find out the cost by calling the 800-354-9793.

If you are flying in there is free transportation to and from the airport. In the baggage area you will see a bank of phones; pick up the one that says Drawbridge Coach to the Castle; a van will pick you up shortly.

Some members have asked about proof of paid registration. All you need is a copy of your returned check. If you want a copy from us, please note this with your payment. Please send to:

MRFA Reunion

106 Bellevue Dr. • Conover, NC. 28613

If you have e-mail, we can e-mail you upon receiving your registration. When sending e-mail addresses please send in a manner we can read it and make sure it's not an old e-mail address. We're having problems with members changing e-mails and not letting us know.

Back-up Hotel

We have booked an extra hotel (just in case) for the 2003 reunion. It is the Holiday Inn at 2100 Dixie Highway in Ft. Mitchell.

Room rates are \$77.00 a night. Free transportation to and from the Drawbridge at the top and bottom of each hour. The Holiday Inn is handicap accessible. If you have any question concerning the Holiday Inn contact Peggy Schmitt, 859-331-1500 x505 or email pschmitt@lodgian.com.

Visit Us on the web at www.mrfa.org

Hi Al,

We were working at the MARS station in NSA area we had it good and bad at times. We ate at the Navy chow hall, and have to admit the food was great. We had our own hooch in the NSA area right behind the MARS station. I have looked at the photo of NSA on the web site and tried to pick it out but after all these years unable to pick it out I remember it being close to the showers.

Some of you may remember a Petty Officer name "shank" he was the Navy MAA (master at arms). Shank did not care if you were Navy or Army, he went by the book, and would lock you conex box in a heart beat. I once made the mistake of going to the CPO club, I walked in and ordered a drink I was a E-5 Sgt at the time. No drinker said the bartender. I got mad and said give me a drink. Now I had only been in the NSA area a couple days. A minute later here came Shank, grabbed me by the collar and out the door. This he said is the CPO club, and I said so what, he said you drink at the acey ducey club (e-5/e-6) pointing down to the hut on the end. I asked him who the heck he thought he was he said I'm the Master at Arms here on this here shore, and you don't go into the CPO club or O club. Me not knowing much about the Navy says to Shank, you have no authority over me. I then found myself in the conex box with some stinking mattress. My guys got me out and no charges were filed. The Army guy's with me

said Shank runs this shore line and stay out of his way and I did for the rest of the time I was there. We had a CPO come in once, and it was quiet and we were able to run him a quick five minute phone call patch to his wife in the states. He said thanks he worked on one of the ships and he would see us in a couple of days. He appeared with a brown frozen box of "New York strip steaks". That was the jack pot for me. We went nuts trying to find something to cook them on. The reefer we had was too small and would hardly keep a coke cool. We ended up with one of the navy cooks in the mess hall cook them up for us he added some onions and butter, "What a meal" folks there's usually around 50 steaks to a case... I have to admit the Navy had some good chow.

When eating C-rats I always had to use Tabasco sauce.

The navy chow onboard ship and shore was the best I had during my two tours in Vietnam. I know the boat crews eat C-Rats as well but I saw many times when the cooks would send extra chow their way quite often. If not they would probably had stolen it. Some days, I mean the really hot days here in Maryland remind me of Dong Tam, and Bein Phouc.

—Jim served in the 2nd/47th & 9th Signal 1968-69

You may contact him at P.O. Box 852
North Beach, MD 20714; phone 301-812-0482

Mini Museum in Fort Mitchell - 2003

As some of you may know, we have tried for the last several years to find a permanent and suitable location to display Mobile Riverine Force and 9th Infantry Division memorabilia. Although we have looked at several locations we have been unable to find a place that we find is suitable and that would take proper care of the items on display there. At our 2003 reunion we would like to have our own mini museum display in the hotel. We will provide a room for anyone that would like to display items related to all the Navy Units and 9th Infantry Division. These items can be documents, uniforms, weapons, flags, photos, etc. Items may be loaned to the MRFA for the 2003 reunion only or be donated for, hopefully, a permanent location in the future. Although we can not be responsible for loss or theft, we will provide security during the day and the room will be secured at night. Items will be displayed on a first come basis until we no longer have space. We may alternate items on a day by day basis if we have more then can be displayed at one time. Please be thinking about this and let us know what you think. We will provide more information in upcoming issues of "River Currents". Some of the items we will have on display are the Photography works of Dan Dodd, Navy Photographer, some of which have never been seen by the membership. These are excellent photos of the Army and the Navy in the Delta. We'll also have boat models on display. If you have models of any kind relating to Vietnam please feel free to put them on display.

—Roy Moseman, VP MRFA

180 Riverview Rd., Athens, GA 30606

Phone 706-549-0749 • rmoseman@aol.com

2/47th "Scouts Scramble" Golf Tournament

The tournament is on again for the up-coming reunion. More info in the next issue of River Currents. Contact Russ Vibberts via email at vibbert@Nationwide.com. Folks, this is very prestigious tournament and you golfers won't want to miss it. The participants always have a great time.

9th MP Company

In early November the MRFA received a e-mail from Darlene McDonald seeking anyone that knew or served with her brother Joe Ben Stuart, who was KIA on 2/28/68 while serving with the 9th MP Co. It's strange but the same day we received the e-mail I was posting a 9th MP Co. e-mail list in my address book. After finishing the list I sent Darlene's request out to the new list. Within an hour or so I heard from Ed Freeman informing me he had made contact with a few folks who had served with Darlene's brother. And Ed took it from there. A number of men contacted Darlene. In a recent e-mail from Ed he informed me that one of Joe Stuart's fellow platoon members, who was a PFC at the time (retired as a full Colonel), had found an old uniform with the proper patches, ribbons and decorations etc. attached and sent to Joe Ben's sister. So even after 34 years the unit spirit and loyalty still survives!!! Ed also wrote keep up the good work that keeps alive the Navy and Army team that we are so proud of!

—Ed Freeman

Former Cmdr-9th MP Co, 9th Inf Div.
e-mail efreeman26@attbi.com

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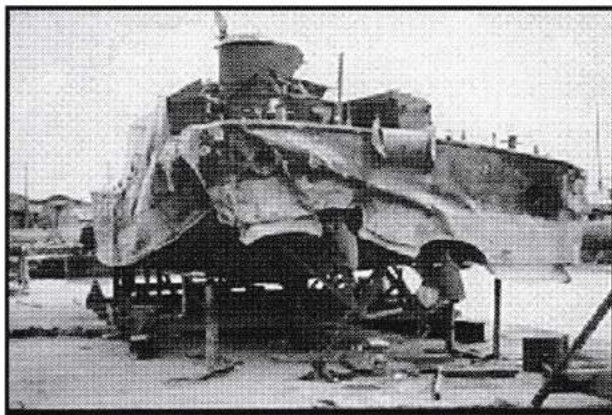
by Don Blankenship, GMG2,
A-111-3 and A-152-21, '69-'70

During the latter part of 1969, under Commander Riverine Strike Group (CTG 194.7), several boats in RivRon 15 (8 from RivDiv 152) were to move in to the Song Ong Doc river near the southern tip of the delta, for joint operations to help clean up a rather nasty VC stronghold near VC lake, the name given to. Some boats were to be transported by LSD to the area and four others (mine included) were to transit the distance by river. One Alpha, a Monitor, a Tango and a CCB made the trip (I can't recall exactly, but I think it was several days). It was slow going because several of the canals were uncharted. We were stuck aground on a couple of occasions at low tide but were fortunate not to have been attacked. We were definitely afraid of the area to which we were going because one Alpha, A-132-3, which had been previously mined, was displayed at the base at Dong Tam. The hull was bent and beyond repair and it was a constant reminder of what a mine can do. Maybe that's why they just didn't salvage and sink her.

When we arrived and rendezvoused with the other boats off shore of a Vietnamese Marine Base along the Song Ong Doc we began operations (See map). It was definitely different down here and you could tell that Charlie was in control and it was much easier for them to transport larger ammo (mines and mortars) than up north toward Saigon. When we would transit a village anywhere else the kids would line the river banks with a hand out. Here the village would be deserted. That was definitely a bad sign. From a personal perspective it was terrible. In the north you knew where safe spots were and seldom had to keep that hot flak jacket and helmet on. Down here you wore it everywhere while under way. And this place was mosquito heaven! We drenched ourselves in that smelly, oily repellent and it didn't do anything but add to our own misery. Around dusk on one particularly hot and humid afternoon, I can remember having to close the lid on my gun mount (we never closed them) and going to war with a million of those little critters. I thought the heat would kill me.

Another Alpha and our boat went on night ambush when we arrived. In the rivers up nearer to Saigon, Charlie transported ammo, rice and medical supplies usually via a two-man sampan. Covering the sampan with nipa palm and staying very close to the banks they would row silently along to their destination. Occasionally, PBR's or Alphas would position themselves (staggered) along either bank and if someone came into view in the starlight scope, we'd pop a flare, say lai day, and then open fire if they did not immediately surrender. Because it was relatively easy for Charlie to turn over the sampan and drift by us with the current, it was sometimes easy for him to escape. So the technique was speeded up so that the whole procedure took about two seconds to open fire. Hey, anybody on the river at night was considered the enemy. Night ambush was the scariest operation for us, because our boats sounded like washing machines and to tie up to the river bank in the dark and not be able to see three feet into that jungle, you just knew Charlie was going to sneak up on you and blow you away. Every sound of a rat or some other critter walking ten feet away would make you freeze. After the first two hours if you hadn't been encountered you had the upper hand. Down in the canals off the Song Ong Doc, either no one had been doing night ambush or Charlie was just brazenly in control of the situation. They operated their sampans with motors on them and didn't even try to disguise them. We wiped out eleven that first night! That was a record for us. Normally we'd be lucky to get one.

The next day we were rafted up along the bank near the Vietnamese Marine Base when we came under a



A-132-3 mined on the Song Cat Tu river May 1, 1969 while leading a column of boats immediately behind two Alphas minesweeping. A-132-1 on the port bank and A-132-4 on the starboard bank. Information courtesy of Keith Phillips (A-132-1). Photo courtesy of ????

heavy mortar attack. The boats quickly got under way and scattered. Rather than go back to that location, we picked up the VN Marines to insert them up one of the canals a few hours away. Before insertion, just as the Navy has down countless times, we prepped the beach with heavy fire power from all of the boats. This insertion happened to be near a village where not one person could be seen (could it be they knew we were coming?) Well, you know it just wasn't 100% American invasion, what can I say?! Unfortunately, for the villagers, we blew the crap out of every structure, sampan, pig, chicken, or anything else we could make a target out of. Not a proud moment in my memory, but when you put fire power in the hands of a boy that's what you get sometimes. Besides, my favorite weapon was an M79 grenade launcher and when I got more to shoot at than the coconuts in the top of palm trees I was thrilled. By this ninth month of my tour I was getting pretty good at lobbing those grenades. I can't remember whether or not it was on this insertion or another where I fired a grenade at a hooch too close to the bank and back shot at me a piece of shrapnel that hit me in the left shoulder and severed a small artery. I could remember seeing it coming at me and thought I got a secondary explosion (no one would confirm it). When I looked down at my shoulder pumping out blood in little spurts, I laughed. Why I thought it was funny looking I'll never know. A little pressure and a bandage and it stopped bleeding right away. Thanks to Jerry McIntosh, our engineman, for playing Doc.

That evening we went back to the river bank next to the base and rafted up, usually three to five boats together so we could go back and forth, play poker, trade C-rats and LRP's (long range patrol rations that were better than C-rations), etc. This was the pits down here, not only because Charlie was thick in the area, but we had no MRB to rely on for a hot meal. The next morning, October 22, 1969 (according to a 10 Nov 69 ComRSG report, but October 23 on my citation), brought a much needed mail call. We hadn't received mail for 21 days, and that meant about ten or so letters from my girl back in San Diego (we fell in love by love letter while I was over there and got married 10 days after I got back and have been married ever since). These included pictures which I carefully laid out on my rack. My rack was one of two exposed racks above the engine covers. There was a metal super-structure on the sides, but a tarp covered the area. Most of the time I liked having an open-air bunk except that the mosquitoes were tough to keep out of the netting.

One of my favorite retreats was the canvas on top of the coxswain flat. I could sit there and lean back against my gun mount. My boat captain, BM2 Dale Walker, was up there with me on this hot morning using the radar as an umbrella and leaning against the mast holding it up. Getting up in the air was about the only way to get

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cool. Dale was a great friend we enjoyed the slightly cooler temperature perched up there on that tarp in what little shade we could find. This day though we were deep in thoughts of home and were both writing letters to catch up. In fact, it was pretty quiet on all the boats with everyone reading mail and writing. Suddenly, a huge explosion rocked the boat!!

After mortaring us the day before to clear us out of the area, Charlie placed a 100+ lb. mine just off shore where we liked to beach the boats for the night. The mine was located right at the stern of a CCB and a Tango boat (I've recently learned it was C-152-1 and T-152-5) and we were tied up to the Tango boat's starboard side. My bell was rung by the explosion and the tarp on which we were perched acted like a trampoline sending both Dale and myself up in the air and into the water. My first memory after the explosion was being underwater with Dale above me on one side and the boat pitching violently on the other, with my toes tickling the mud. Dale hit the side of the boat coming down and broke a hip. Fortunately, I cleared the boat with only minor lacerations from junk being blown apart by the explosion.

It's strange what you recall in such a situation but I distinctly remember Dale moaning when I was under water and I was worried about drowning. I pushed Dale toward the surface and tried to push myself away from the boat so that it didn't pound me into that mud. My legs were kicking to beat hell by this point and I was never so relieved to reach the surface and that breath of air as anything before, or since, in my life. I grabbed Dale, whom I could see was in severe pain, and pulled him toward the boat. I think it was John McDowell and one of the Vietnamese, Nguyen Van Manh on our boat who pulled Dale aboard as I pushed. They threw me a line and I climbed aboard. Our engineman, Mac, was also injured as was one of the Vietnamese, Phan Thanh Duch. All three of them would later be dusted off and I would never see or hear from them again, even to this day.

Assessing the situation, I decided I had to take command being the senior uninjured person still aboard. The force of the explosion had taken our boats off the beach and had severed the lines between the Tango and Charlie boat. Charlie One, which was sinking by the stern, managed to get an engine started I think, and ran herself hard up on the beach before her engine room flooded. Tango 5 still tied to us was sinking by the stern and her crew was boarding our boat. Our two boats were drifting away from the bank. We were also taking on water and getting pretty low on the port side. I looked into the aft lazaret and saw the port exhaust boot had been blown off and water was flooding the compartment. I jumped down in the compartment and started flinging stuff out of my way. After a short time I was able to get the boot back on and stop the incoming water. Upon climbing out I noticed the Tango boat was continuing to pull us down. We had managed to untie the forward line but the aft line had such a strain there was only one way to get it loose. I told our forward gunner, Dennis, to take the fire ax to the line. Just as he was doing so it occurred to me that I should have confirmed that all of the other crew was aboard our boat. Too late! Snap went the line and the Tango immediately capsized. Everyone started yelling for a missing crew mate (Fluentes, according to Dennis Bacon, our forward gunner). I thought, 'oh great, I've given my first order as boat captain and would be responsible for killing someone.' We scanned the surface for what seemed like minutes but could have only been seconds and out from under that overturned hull came Fuentes. I was greatly

continued on page 4

In Memory of

This section is for the members who wish to sponsor the MRFA by placing a notice in memory of one their fallen comrades. In some cases the name of the sponsor will precede the name of the person who was KIA, or has passed on since Vietnam.

Jack Benedick for C/CO/4th/47th 66-68 C/CO/3rd/60th 69
Robert Stumpf for Joseph Reese E/CO/3rd/60th Inf KIA 4-7-68
James J. Byrnes for members of the Junk Force, Dung Island
James Roselli for Mark Schoenberger B/CO/3rd/39th Inf.
Capt. Peveril Blundell, USN Ret. For Paul Wolfgang, RivAstSqd-13
Harley G. Timmerman, For Jerry Sessions RivRon-13 T-132-10
MS. Neal A. Now For Captain John G. Now USN Ret. ComRivFlot-One
Paul De Nicola B/3/60 for Alex Radisa PCFs 55-19 Lt/JG Robert B. Conaty XO RivDiv-131 69-69 For Paul Wolfgang RivAstSqd-13.
Sara & Al Moore For John Isaac Associate Member Roy Moseman For Oscar Santiago C/CO/4th/47th Wendell Affield For Edward (Budda Thomas BMC (MDV) USN Ret. Tango-112-11
Marlene Levis For Husband Michael E. Levis (HHC) S/3 3rd/47th 12/67/1268
David R. Lynn For Howard Burns (QM2) Robert Bouchet (SM2) Herman Miller (GM3) 8-11-68 IUWG - 1 - Unit 3
Bob Sutton For Lt/Jg James F. Rost KIA 11/17/69 Frank T. Buck SKCS Ret For Son ENFN Frank H. Buck KIA-12/28/67 T-92-10
James Lyde for Son Ronald Lyde USS Benewah APB-35
Lanny Snyder For David "Doc" Hearne T-92-6 Chet "Gunner" Stanley for Jerry Pappy Ashcraft (cockswain) CCB-111-1
John Philp For LTC William B. Cronin KIA April 27, 1967 CO 2/47th
John Philp For Colonel Arthur D. Moreland USA Ret. 2/47th 4/67-12/67
Sara & Albert Moore For Charlie Isaac (A good Sailor)

MRFA Get Well Wishes To...

To our VP Roy Moseman, who just had a hip replacement operation. We wish all the best for a fast and speedy recovery. Roy is now home and doing well. Contact Roy at 180 Riverview Rd., Athens, GA 30606; 706-549-0749; or email rmoseman@aol.com.

Lt. John "Jack" Hermann, USN, Ret. was recently in the hospital for some repair work on his heart arteries. John recently found out he had macular degeneration and is having some eye sight problems. John was ComRivDiv-92 68-69. Contact John at P.O. Box 252, El Dorado, CA 95623; phone 530-622-4353; e-mail oro@directcon.net.

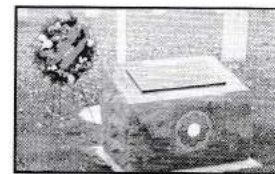
Jerry Weston has been in the hospital but is now home and doing somewhat better. Jerry served in RivRon-9-1967-68. You may contact Jerry at 169 Santiam Ln., Roseburg, OR 97470; or e-mail yes185mph@aol.com.

Veterans Day in Minneapolis

About 50 people attended the Vets gathering at Minneapolis, Minnesota in November of this year. It was a good time by all. We had some first time people. At the wreath laying at Fort Snelling, Mike Clark (4th/39th) had the rifle squad as honor guard. Jeff Olson of the Department of Veteran's Affairs (Minnesota) and Al Holtan (Service Officer of the Wabasha Office) were speakers.



Kneeling: Frank Humphreys, Dave Schell, Dave Remore, Bill Arbogast; 1st row: Dennis Kotila, Gary Smith, Al Holtan, (sorry unidentified at press time), Ronald Klump, Charlie Ardinger, Allen Ehler, Doc Jones; 2nd row: Harley Timmerman, Robert Moore, Robert Schade, Ken Novak.



9th Infantry Division Memorial.



MRFA Memorial.

Veterans Day in Kokomo, Indiana



U.S. Navy & 9th Infantry Division Vietnam Memorial

Thanks to Association board member Ralph Fries the U.S. Navy & 9th Infantry Division Vietnam Memorial will be on display from now on at all National Reunions. I would also like to thank Dave Argabright of the 2nd/60th and a few others of the 2nd/60th who have put a lot of time and effort in obtaining the listing for all the 9th Infantry Division KIAs. This was not an easy task these folks used their own time and funds to make trips to DC and St. Louis to get these records, and they are a very impressive set of records. Ralph also did the same for the Navy records visiting DC and Millington, TN. As in all military records you're apt to find a few

mistakes, but Ralph, Dave and others have done the best with the info they have obtained. The Monument will be a very impressive site. It will be over a 100 feet long and around 7 feet high. It will list all 9th and U.S. Navy KIA's by Name, Unit, Date KIA, and Province KIA. This is not just for the MRF-TF-117, it's for all Navy Units that served in Vietnam and all units of the 9th Infantry Division. The Memorial will be set up in the Mini Museum (Yeoman) Room. We hope you will make plans to attend the reunion and take part in visiting the Museum and the Memorial. I don't think you will be disappointed.

PS. If you're coming in a day or two early and would like to assist with putting the memorial together please contact Ralph at 1000 Erica St. Escondido, CA 92027; phone 760-745-0473; or email: rhfries@pacbell.net.

TAPS... Those Gone, But Not Forgotten

Jerry "Pappy" Ashcraft passed away October 17, 2002 from complications he had from a recent stroke. Jerry was known as (Pappy) to all who knew him. Pappy was boat cox'sn on CCB-111-1 1966-67. Pappy loved his wife and Children and most of all his six grandchildren. You may contact the family C/O Patsy Ashcraft 4801 N. State St., Space #8, Ukiah, CA 95482; phone 707-485-7541; or e-mail pappy1eye@msn.com. Pappy will be buried October 23 at the Ukiah Cemetery, Low Gap Rd., Ukiah, CA. Pappy was 60 years old except for the Boat Captain he was the oldest man on CCB-111-1.

Jodi Gray wife of member Ed Gray passed away September 17, 2002 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Jodi was a fine lady and a delight to be around, she will be

missed by all. Ed served on Alpha-91-8 and Alpha-92-4 1968-69. You may contact Ed at W1503 County Rd., E. Mindora, WI 54644; phone 608-857-3602.

Cdr W.R. Colthurst USN Ret., XO USS Askari ARL-30, 69-71. You may contact the family at 808 de la Fayette Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 23455; phone 751-571-1502.

James L. Corbitt QMC US. Navy Ret. USS Benewah APB-35 1966-68 passed away May 21, 1999. Address N/A

John Merton Christensen PNC USN, Ret. USS Benewah APB-35 1966-68 passed away February 21, 2002.



Mined

continued from page 3

relieved to say the least. Dennis recalls that the guy told him he was looking for \$400 in his footlocker when the boat capsized. We pulled him aboard and managed to beach ourselves and began the cleanup and dusting off of wounded on the deck of an another Tango boat. There was a total of 15 wounded but none killed which we considered lucky.

The explosion had blown off the engine covers and my rack. My new pictures of my girlfriend (now my wife of over thirty-two years) as well as half my mail were

floating in that bilge water (that oily crud never came off). The sugar shaker for my tea and my radio in my locker had disintegrated, so had my bottle of scotch. In other words, Charlie had turned my little world upside down and I wasn't even able to shoot at him. All I could do was shout obscenities at the other river bank where I figure he watched the whole thing with some feeling of great accomplishment.

The next day (or a few, I don't recall), we headed out of the Song Ong Doc to an LSD or Coast Guard Cutter off the coast for repairs. When we cleared the mouth of that river some distance off the coast, I swear the water went from it's cruddy brown color to crystal clear blue/

green in the distance of one foot. It was the most amazing transition I had ever seen. There was a kind of yellow algae in that blue water that made it so beautiful. We were in what seemed to be 10 foot swells but they were wide apart and a light breeze meant a pretty smooth roller coaster ride. We had not taken much spray over the bow since I was in training at Mare Island. As I was coming down out of my gun mount, I stepped as always across the top of the coxswain flat onto the super structure and from there it was just a step three feet down off the gun stop to the deck. That day, though, there was water on that gun stop and my foot slipped right off and straight to the deck. I ended up breaking one of the bones in my foot. Little did I realize when I hobbled into the Doctor on that LSD (or Cutter?), it would be the last time I'd see my boat. Back then I flew to Dong Tam by helicopter with a cast on my foot to finish my tour (three months) as a Shore Patrol in the Enlisted Men's club. But that's another story!

MRFA Catalog Products

New shirt designs feature fully embroidered logos. All shirts are \$22.50 each (includes S/H) Please indicate quantity and size in space provided.

- ☐ **Combat Action Ribbon** (Tan) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____) ☐ **MRFA Vietnam** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
☐ **9th Inf. Div. Vietnam** (Dk. Blue) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____) ☐ **River Assault Force** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
☐ **Combat Infantry Badge** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____) ☐ **MRFA Army & Navy** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)
☐ **Boats** ☐ **ASPB** ☐ **Tango** ☐ **Monitor** (Ash) (Qty: _____ / Sz: _____)

(# of Shirts: _____)

x \$22.50 each = \$ _____



New hat designs feature fully embroidered logos. All hats are \$21.50 each (includes S/H) Please indicate quantity in the space provided.

- ☐ **MRFA** (Dark Blue) (Qty: _____) ☐ **Purple Heart Hats** (White) ☐ **9th Div.** (Qty: _____) ☐ **MRFA** (Qty: _____)
☐ **Combat Medic** (Black) (Qty: _____) ☐ **Boat Hats** (Off White with Blue Bill)
☐ **CIB Hat** (White) (Qty: _____) ☐ **Monitor** (Qty: _____) ☐ **Tango** (Qty: _____) ☐ **ASPB** (Qty: _____)

(# of Hats: _____)

x \$21.50 each = \$ _____



MRFA Poster In Full Color (Qty: _____ x \$27.50 each = \$ _____)

Patches ☐ **MRFA** (Qty: _____) ☐ **9th Infantry** (Qty: _____) ☐ **TF-117** (Qty: _____)
Specify: ☐ **River Rat** (Qty: _____) (Qty: _____ x \$4.00 each = \$ _____)

MRFA Bumper Sticker Full Color Vinyl Decal (Qty: _____ x \$4.00 each = \$ _____)

Hat Pin ☐ **MRFA** ☐ **9th Infantry Pin** (# of Pins: _____ x \$3.00 each = \$ _____)

MRFA Video "Force Afloat" (Qty: _____ x \$27.50 each = \$ _____)

"Ambush" Limited edition print by Bill McGrath. (Qty: _____ x \$150.00 each = \$ _____)

Personalized MRFA Coffee Mug Specify items of your choice
MRFA Member's Name (maximum of 16 characters/spaces) Rank (max. 4 characters/spaces)

Command in Vietnam (maximum 20 characters) _____

Specify insignia for reverse side of the mug: ☐ **Army** ☐ **Navy** ☐ **USMC** ☐ **USCG** ☐ **Purple Heart**
(Qty: _____ x \$30.00 each = \$ _____)

MRFA or 9th Infantry Division SATIN OR DENIM Jackets All Jackets Are Embroidered with MRFA or 9th Infantry Division Logo. Satin Jackets are available in: Black, Silver, Royal Blue or White.

Available combinations: Black jacket w/white or gold collar/cuffs. Specify: _____
Silver jacket w/black or white collar/cuffs. Jacket Color: _____
Blue jacket w/white or gold collar/cuffs
White jacket w/solid colors only. Collar/Cuffs: _____

Nylon Jacket Embroidered Back Only S-XXXL **135.00**
Nylon Jacket (Embroidered Front & Back) (Name on right front, unit on left front) S-XXXL **155.00**
Quilted (Embroidered Back Only) S-XXXL **145.00**
Quilted (Embroidered Front & Back) S-XXXL **165.00** (Qty: _____ x \$ _____ each = \$ _____)

Denim Jackets do not receive color choice, and tend to run larger than other styles!

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check or money order out to the MRFA. Send to: MRFA, 2906 Starlite Dr., Topeka, KS 66605. You can contact products Chairman Bob VanDruff by calling 1-785-267-1526 or email bvdmrfa@networksplus.net.

Note: Due to the increase in postage over the last few years we have had to go up on our S/H there has also been an increase in cost from our product suppliers so we have had to go up on the products as well. This is the first increase of any kind the MRFA has had since our beginning in 1992. Albert Moore, MRFA President

MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NOTE NEW ADDRESS! Charlie Ardinger
1857 CO Rd. A-14, Decorah, IA 52101

- ☐ **New Member** ☐ **Renewal** ☐ **Donation**
☐ **CHANGE OF ADDRESS - Note Below!**

NAME: _____

STREET: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: () _____

E-MAIL: _____

Dates Served in Unit (mm/yr - mm/yr) _____

- ☐ **WWII** ☐ **Korea** ☐ **Vietnam**

☐ **Army Member:** Unit (Division, Brigade, Battalion, Company, Platoon): _____

☐ **Navy Member:** Ship, Boat Hull Nos. or NavDet: _____

☐ **Associate Member**

Membership Rates:

- ☐ **1 Yr.** \$10.00 ☐ **3 Years** \$27.50

☐ **Donation:** \$ _____

To become a member, mail your check or money order (payable to MRFA) to: **Charlie Ardinger, MRFA Membership Chairman**, 1857 CO Rd. A14, Decorah, IA 52101-7448.

Please Note: This form may be used for New Memberships, Renewals and Changes of Address. Be sure to check the appropriate box.

DON'T FORGET!!!

Your **MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE** is printed on the front of each issue of *River Currents*.

Combat Chronicles of U.S. Army Divisions in World War II 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION

World War II

Activated: 1 August 1940. **Overseas:** 11 December 1942. (Three organic combat teams participated in North African landings 8 November 1942.) **Campaigns:** Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy, North France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe. **Days of combat:** 304. **Distinguished Unit Citations:** 24. **Awards:** MH-4; DSC-76; DSM-3; SS-2,282; LM-19; DFC-2; SM-100; BSM-6,593; AM-129. **Commanders:** Col. Charles B. Elliott (August 1940), Brig. Gen. Francis W. Honeycutt (September 1940), Maj. Gen. Jacob L. Devers (October 1940-July 1941), Maj. Gen. Rene E. DeR. Hoyle (August 1941-July 1942), Maj. Gen. Manton S. Eddy (August 1942-August 1944), Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (August 1944-May 1945), Brig. Gen. Jesse A. Ladd (May 1945-February 1946), Maj. Gen. Horace L. McBride (March 1946 to inactivation), Maj. Gen. William W. Eagles (15 July 1947-26 April 1948), Maj. Gen. Arthur A. White (27 April 1948-). **Inactivated:** 15 January 1947. **Reactivated:** 15 July 1947.

Combat Chronicle

The 9th Infantry Division saw its first combat in the North African invasion, 8 November 1942, when its elements landed at Algiers, Safi, and Port Lyautey. With the collapse of French resistance, 11 November 1942, the Division patrolled the Spanish Moroccan border. The 9th returned to Tunisia in February and engaged in small defensive actions and patrol activity. On 28 March 1943 it launched an attack in southern Tunisia and fought its way north into Bizerte, 7 May. In August the 9th landed at Palermo, Sicily, and took part in the capture of Randazzo and Messina. After returning to England for further training, the Division hit Utah Beach on 10 June 1944 (D plus 4), cut off the Cotentin Peninsula, drove on to Cherbourg and penetrated the port's heavy defenses. After a brief rest in July, the Division took part in the St. Lo break-through and in August helped close the Falaise Gap. Turning east, the 9th crossed the Marne, 28 August, swept through Saarlautern, and in November and December held defensive positions from Monschau to Losheim. Moving north to Bergrath, Germany, it launched an attack toward the Roer, 10 December, taking Echz and Schlich. From mid-De-

cember through January 1945, the Division held defensive positions from Kalterherberg to Elsenborn. On 30 January the Division jumped off from Monschau in a drive across the Roer and to Rhine, crossing at Remagen, 7 March. After breaking out of the Remagen bridgehead, the 9th assisted in the sealing and clearing of the Ruhr Pocket, then moved 150 miles east to Nordhausen and attacked in the Harz Mountains, 14-20 April. On 21 April the Division relieved the 3d Armored along the Mulde River, near Dessau, and held that line until VE-day.

Assignments in the ETO*

20 November 1943: First Army. 25 November 1943: VII Corps. 1 August 1944: VII Corps, First Army, 12th Army Group. 26 October 1944: V Corps. 6 December 1944: VII Corps. 18 December 1944: V Corps. 20 December 1944: Attached, with the entire First Army, to the British 21st Army Group. 18 January 1945: V Corps, First Army, 12th Army Group. 17 February 1945: III Corps. 31 March 1945: VII Corps. 4 April 1945: III Corps. 14 April 1945: VII Corps.

General

Shoulder patch: An octofoil-a design of eight petals on a khaki background. Upper part of the octofoil is red, lower part blue, and there is a white disk in center. Association: 9th Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C., Mr. Charles O. Tingley, secretary. **Publications:** *Eight Stars to Victory*; by Lt. Joseph B. Mittelman, unit historian; F. J. Heer Printing Co., Columbus, Ohio; 1947. *The Octofoil*, monthly Association paper (editor: Paul S. Plunkett, 337 South High St., Columbus, Ohio). *Hitler's Nemesis*, *The 9th Infantry Division*; Stars and Stripes; Paris, Desfosses; 1944; 32 pp. *Hold Fast!*; 9th Division; 59 pp. *The Final Thrust*; History of the 9th Infantry Division in Germany, September 1941, to May 1945; 9th Division Historian's Office; by Lt. Joseph D. Mittelman; 1948; 73 pp.

*See footnote, 1st Infantry Division.

[Nota Bene: These combat chronicles, current as of October 1948, are reproduced from *The Army Almanac: A Book of Facts Concerning the Army of the United States*, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1950, pp. 510-592.]

From the Galley

continued from page 1

A Note About Application Forms

The application form can be used for membership, renewal of membership, change of address, e-mail address and donations. When filling out the application form please print clearly all the information required. We have been receiving forms with old addresses, phone numbers, and especially e-mail addresses. Then we receive letters or e-mails or phone calls from the membership, asking why they haven't been receiving the newsletter. When asked if what we have in our database is the correct information, we are told that it is an old address, or e-mail address. If you do not send us your changes, we have no way of knowing and cannot update our files! So, when filling out the form, be sure that the information you are sending is correct and up to date.



This is a photo of LCPL's IUWG units.

BULLDOG

BEAVER - Thirty-two years ago, a man called "Bulldog" walked point in Vietnam. He traveled 50 to 100 yards ahead of his platoon, wading through rivers, canals, rice paddies and jungles. He was the man who kept his men safe. It's how he lost his life. On Wednesday night, eight of the men William "Bulldog" McLaughlin protected lined a red carpet in Quay Square as his family took their own harrowing walk to lay a single red rose at The Moving Wall.

The family from Hookstown and the brothers from Vietnam brushed fingers and caught gazes, brought together for the first time by the memory of one man.

"This was our opportunity to pay tribute, to say goodbye," A.R. "Monti" Montillo said. Wednesday's Moving Wall opening ceremony was Beaver County's opportunity to do the same for all of its fallen heroes. One by one, the names of those men were called, and their families, like the McLaughlin family, walked the red carpet to the wall.

But for Montillo of South Carolina, John Sperry of New York, Buck Buchanan of Ohio, Dan Broucek of Pittsburgh, Bob Mathias of Ohio, Mike Schaming of Evans City, Leon Edmiston of Sheffield, Pa., and Ralph Weicht of the state of Indiana, there was only Bulldog.

A few of the men who had traveled so far didn't really know Bulldog, at least not well. But everyone knew of him. He was a legend in the Bravo Company. He'd help carry your bags into camp when you got there, talk you into a poker game when you were settled in and make sure you were safe when you were walking in enemy shadows. He had a knack for taking charge and an ability to train others to do the same.

He was like a big brother.

"I didn't know him well, but the least I could do is to come and honor him," Edmiston said.

But Edmiston had to admit that he didn't come to Beaver County just for Bulldog. He came for himself, too. To see his brothers from Vietnam, to heal the open wound of war.

For these men, coming home from war was less than joyful. They were met with disdain. They returned to work mere days after setting foot on American soil. There was no time to heal. No one thanked them for what they did.

"You feel like you're stranded in the middle of nowhere," Edmiston said.

But together, something changes. Some piece of themselves that they left with each other in a land oceans away is found again. The part that died with Bulldog is recovered. They are the same men. They play the same parts.

"It's like a homecoming," Broucek said.

"It's like a shot in the arm to get you from one year to the next," Buchanan said.

On Wednesday, maybe even Bulldog could feel it, looking out on Quay Square from his place on the wall. Hearing veterans speak moving words, listening to vocalists sing patriotic songs. Watching eight members of Bravo Company heal old wounds.

He had orchestrated this goodbye unknowingly 32 years ago when he took a bullet.

"I see more love and support tonight than since I got out (of the service)," Edmiston said. "I'm a m o n g friends. And I like to think if it was me instead of Bulldog, they'd still be here."



SEEKING VETERANS OF NAM

Editor's Note: If you would like to see a reunion notice posted in River Currents, forward your written request to: Albert Moore, 106 Bellevue Dr., Conover, NC 28613. Deadlines are: Feb. 1st, May 1st, Aug. 1st, and Nov. 1st.

DONALD OHMES

Co/A/3rd/47th Inf. is seeking anyone who remembers a soldier named (Del Roze) who was wounded 2-1-1968 in My Tho. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Del Roze please contact Don C/O 7826 Grove Lake Ct #102, Germantown, TN 38138; phone 901-325-6134; or e-mail ohmes5@aol.com.

ATTACK BOAT SAILORS ASSOCIATION

WW-II-Korea-Vietnam, POC: Ed Brisbosi at P.O. Box 3328, Ft. Pierce, FL. 34948

UDT-SEAL ASSOCIATION MUSEUM

Located State Rd. A1A, Ft. Pierce, FL. POC: Jim Barnes 3216 Yale St North, St Petersburg, FL 33713. Or call 1-727-894-2848

USS MONTROSE (APA-212)

Seeking past crew members for all time periods, excellent group old White Hats. Contact Russ McDonald at 10072 Bonser Ave. Garden Grove, CA 92840; phone 1-714-636-6267; E-Mail gatnavy1@prodigy.net

47TH INFANTRY REUNION

9th Infantry Division WWI, WWII, Vietnam and Today. April 10-13, 2003 Holiday Inn North Columbus, GA. Reservations 1-800-465-4329. Room Rates \$64.00 per night. POC: Bob Pries (513) 755-1223 or rpries@cinci.rr.com

Black Virgin Mountain

River Division 132 - Tango 132-13

While we were stationed at Go Dau on the Song Vam Co Dong River we could see this mountain in the distance. It was only 3300 feet tall but it took huge from the surrounding rice patties. Day after day we could see this mountain, the only one rising up out of the rice patties and thought boy it would be nice if we could get a closer look at it. (it was called the Black Virgin Mountain) If we could have known then what we would find out later, we would not have wished to get closer to it. A few

weeks later we were sent to Tay Ninh at the base of the mountain. It was not a good place to operate around. The Cambodia border was only 1/2 mile from the river in some places. Which was a safe haven for them. We could not strike back after they crossed the border. On June 22, 1969 five of our seven boat crew would received Purple Hearts. It was not a healthy place for us to be. As I later read in a book there were 250 sailors that operated that stretch of river and there were 500 Purple Hearts issued.

— Gerald Burleigh
geraldbur@aol.com

Advertising in River Currents

We've begun to receive many requests from the membership regarding advertising in River Currents. Requests for everything: Books, Medals, Patches, Watches, Boat Models, etc. And everyone wants a photo of their product posted. We're sorry but, we are unable to do this for space reasons. From now on the only thing that will be published is the name of the product and contact information. This will be provided at no additional cost. If you, the member, received this service in any other publication there would be a cost involved.

- MILITARY PATCHES:**
208-476-775
• macpatch@clearwater.net
- SHIPS HISTORIES** 1-800 732-9333
- INDOCHINA & VIETNAM TOURS**
360-570-2096 • indochinatours@olywa.net

- MILITARY WATCHES**
MRFA & 9th Infantry 541-863-3144
- BOAT MODELS:** All Brown Water Boat Models.
George & Sharon Johnson, 1270 Burnham Ave., Apt. 2105 - Bldg. 14, Las Vegas, NV 89104; e-mail sharonjohnson@aol.com.
- Books:** www.mrfa.org

The only products to be shown in River Currents will be MRFA products. The MRFA products help and assist with keeping the MRFA up and running. There is a patch and book, tour info on the web site www.mrfa.org. You may contact Don Blankenship if you want a book or etc. posted on the site. Don makes the final decision on what's to be posted on the web site; e-mail him at don@bcres.com.

—Albert Moore, MRFA President
mrfa@charter.net • 828-464-7228

VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR

Phone 570-603-9740 • E-mail vvnwnatl@epix.net
Web Site http://www.vvnw.org

LT. ROGER G. RUPPERT USN

Seeking current address of Lt. Roger G. Ruppert, USN, former Commanding Officer of the Mine Division 112 last located at Nha Be, Vietnam in 1970. Please contact James J. McMahon, SMCS, USN (Ret.) at vgmijm@aol.com or 16 Holyoke St., Easthampton, MA 01027.

REUNIONS

1099TH (MD) BOAT CO.

June 13-14-15, 03 In Denver, CO. For more info contact Michael Mitchell 635 Adams St. Green River, WY 82935; e-mail mitchellm77@onewest.net.

2003 Reunion Registration Form

Drawbridge Estates Inn
August 27-31, 2003 in Ft. Mitchell, KY

Name: _____

Unit in Vietnam: _____

Name(s) wife & family/guest(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Be sure to enclose your check or money order with this form. Send to address below.

Registration fee

(Member only, cost includes family and 1 guest)

Total _____ x \$35.00 each = \$ _____

Registration fee (Non-Members)*

Total _____ x \$50.00 each = \$ _____

Saturday Afternoon Buffet (All)

Total _____ x \$10.00 each = \$ _____

Grand Total Enclosed \$ _____

*Non-member is defined as a person who is eligible to be a member of the MRFA by having served in the MRF: TF-117, TF-116, TF-115, the 9th Infantry Division or any Army/Navy supporting unit who has not joined the MRFA. (A membership application can be found elsewhere in this newsletter). The registration fee covers the member and/or guest girlfriend, etc. Please send your check or money order (payable to MRFA) and the top portion of this form before August 21, 2003 to:

MRFA Reunion

106 Bellevue Dr. • Conover, NC 28613

"I wish to have no connection with
any ship that does not sail fast for
I intend to go in harm's way."

— Captain John Paul Jones
16 November 1778

Working Party Update

If you live in the San Diego area and would like to assist in the restoration of CCB-18 by being an MRFA volunteer (Working Party), Army or Navy, please contact Charles Campbell at 677 G St. SP#1, Chula Vista, CA 91910; phone 619-427-6835; or email ccicec@aol.com; or Everett 'Boats' Jones at 1947 Gotham St., Chula Vista CA 91913; phone 619-421-3721; email oneerj@pacbell.net.

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CHUNG C. PHAM (SVN) ARL-23

KEITH PHILLIPS, A-132-1

WILLIAM F. POSEY BM1 USN RET. CRAFTMASTER YTB-

785, 67-68/70-71

KENNETH S. RAY, GMCM, USN (RET.) USS

VERNON CTY. (LST-1161)

CAPT. WALTER RIEDEMANN USN RET. TOM GREEN CTY 1159

DON & MARJO ROBBINS USS BENEWAH APB-35

LAWRENCE ROSE (CRIP) 9TH INF/DIV

TOM SANBORN A/CO/4"/47" INFANTRY

THOMAS J. DOC SANKO HMCS USN RET USS

BENEWAH APB-35

NORMAN SAUNDERS, B CO., 3RD/39TH INF.

JERRY (DOC) SCHUEBEL B/CO/3"/60"

JERRY J. SHEARER 2NB/PLT/C/CO/3"/60"

JOE SHEDLOCK, ALPHA-152-4

DONALD J. SHELTON, LSMR-536

WILLIAM E. SINCLAIR, USS WHITE RIVER (LSMR-536)

GLENN I. SMITH B/3 4"/39" 9"/INF/DIV

WALTER SNOW, CCB-151-1

LANNY R. SNYDER TANGO-92-6

FRANK & MABEL SPRINGER

FRANK SPRINGER TANGO-131-9

JIM STEFFES, COSDIV 12-13

ALAN STRICKLAND, A CO., 2ND/47TH INF.

JOHN P. STURGIL, USS COLLETON (APB-36)

BOB SUTTON M-92-2 / Z-92-11 / R-92-1 RIVRON-13

STAFF

W.E. TAMBOER USN RET. RIVRON-15 STAFF

COL. CLYDE J. TATE, USA (RET.) S-3, 2ND BDE.

VICE ADMIRAL EMMETT H. TIDD COMNAVFORV (COS)

ROBERT P. TILLANDER USS SPHINX ARL-24 (68-69)

JIM TONEY, E CO., 3RD/60TH INFANTRY

DONALD TRAUSSNECK USS BENEWAH APB-35

EROL TUZZO, A CO., 3RD/60TH, 68-69

ROGER C. VALENTINE CS1 USN RET. USS ASKARI

ARL-30 TF-117

BOB & NANCY VANDRUFF

BOB VARGAS 2"/60" INF.

GARY T. WEISZ ALPHA-91-4